

Report on the Review of the Queensland Police Service

**Prepared for the Honourable Russell Cooper MLA
Minister for Police and Corrective Services
and
Minister for Racing**

July 1996

The Committee notes that its concerns in relation to staffing and function echo those of the CJC (Report of an Inquiry into Allegations of Police Misconduct at Inala in November 1990) which recommended that:

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Ethnic Liaison Section of the Queensland Police Service be increased in size. Its staff should be trained to deal with and give advice regarding incidents such as that which occurred outside the Wandarah Centre, in addition to liaison work with specific minority groups.

RECOMMENDATION 116.

The Committee recommends to the Commissioner that the Cultural Advisory Office be allocated a separate budget which would allow the Office to initiate projects, and the officer in charge to travel regularly to regions.

Organisation/Reporting Arrangements

Under current organisational arrangements, the Inspector in Charge of the COA reports to the Officer in Charge, Operational Programs and Procedures (a civilian position with an AO7 classification). The situation of an Inspector reporting to a more junior officer is anomalous in the extreme. There appears to be no clear or good reason why this arrangement has been put in place.

RECOMMENDATION 117.

The Committee recommends that the Commissioner review the reporting arrangements of the Cultural Advisory Office and give consideration to having the Office report directly to the Superintendent Police Advancement Branch.

Relationship of the Senior Cultural Advisor to the Commissioner

Currently responsibility for cross-cultural issues in relation to ethnic communities, other than ATSI communities, is spread across the CAO, the Senior Cultural Advisor to the Commissioner (SCA) and regional cross-cultural liaison officers (CLOs).

The SCA has specific responsibility for consultation and advice in relation to multi-cultural policies and ethnic communities. The SCA represents the Commissioner on national, state and regional bodies and also has a liaison and consultation role. Like the CAO, the SCA has no dedicated resources, although the position has access to the resources and administrative staff of the Office of the Commissioner.

While the work of the CAO and the SCA are closely intertwined, the current organisational structure impedes communication and effective handling of cross-cultural issues.

RECOMMENDATION 118.

The Committee recommends that the Commissioner consider whether the Cultural Advisory Office and the office of the Senior Cultural Advisor be merged.